



Centers for Disease Control  
and Prevention (CDC)  
Atlanta GA 30333  
August 4, 2005

*<Insert Name, Title, Affiliation, Address>*

Dear *<Insert Name>*:

Thank you for agreeing to review the draft CDC document titled, "Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in Healthcare Settings, 2005." Where possible, this document is evidenced-based; however, uncertainty is inherent in this field and in some cases, conclusive evidence may not be available. Thus, some recommendations are made on accumulated evidence rather than scientific fact while others are based on best scientific judgment.

The names of all reviewers and their areas of expertise will be published on the CDC Office of Public Health Research website: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/ophr/pragenda/pragenda/tb-trans.htm>. Summary comments (not linked to specific reviewers) and our responses will also be available for public review. We ask that you complete the attached Background Information and Confidential Conflict of Interest Disclosure forms. Please return the forms with your comments as indicated below.

CDC asks for your expert opinion in the area of *<insert Primary Discipline/Expertise>*, primarily contained in the *<insert Section(s)>*. Please review to determine if the recommendations are appropriate and clearly stated, and if not, please provide suggestions for rewording. In addition, in an effort to shorten the document, please indicate any areas (words, sentences) that you feel are repetitive and may be deleted. You are also welcome to comment on any other portions of the document. Please note that information in this draft refers to QuantiFERON<sup>®</sup> Gold TB test (QFT), the second generation test. The document will be updated based on the recommendations of an Expert Panel which met last month. This expert panel recommended QFT be used in all circumstances in which tuberculin skin testing is currently used; however, the Panel also noted the lack of data on the performance of the QFT in select populations of interest, particularly in very young children and persons with seriously immunocompromised states, including and especially those caused by infection with HIV.

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For additional background, you may view the comments CDC received during the public comment period (06 December 2004–04 February 2005) on the following website:

[http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/tb/Federal\\_Register](http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/tb/Federal_Register). If you desire to review any of the cited references, please e-mail CDC at [tbinfectioncontrol@cdc.gov](mailto:tbinfectioncontrol@cdc.gov) or call the Division of Tuberculosis Elimination at 404-639-8120.

CDC requests receipt of comments on the draft Guidelines on or before 26 August 2005. Comments should be submitted by e-mail to [TBinfectioncontrol@cdc.gov](mailto:TBinfectioncontrol@cdc.gov). The “Track Changes” feature of MS Word is the preferred method for comments, however if that is not available, please include the specific section, paragraph, and page number for each comment. If unable to submit electronically, comments may be mailed to Peer Review of Draft Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* in Healthcare Settings, 2005, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Division of Tuberculosis Elimination, 1600 Clifton Road, NE., Mailstop E10, Atlanta, Georgia 30333. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Dr. Paul Jensen (404-639-8310 or [PJensen@cdc.gov](mailto:PJensen@cdc.gov)) or Dr. Michael Iademarco (404-639-5336 or [MIademarco@cdc.gov](mailto:MIademarco@cdc.gov)).

Sincerely,

Kenneth G. Castro, M.D.  
Assistant Surgeon General, U.S. Public Health Service  
Director, Division of Tuberculosis Elimination  
National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Enclosure

cc:

Terry Chorba  
Michael Iademarco  
Paul Jensen  
Shawna Mercer  
Jimmy Stephens